



Mike Lewis
President
Yarralumla Residents Association Inc

2020 ACT elections: YRA priority issues – Canberra Progressives' response

Hello Mike and the YRA,

Thank you for the opportunity to engage with your association in the lead up to the 2020 ACT Legislative Assembly election. As a new party running in our first state/local based election, it's truly exciting to out and hearing from a whole range of community stakeholders, and getting a better understanding of what's on the minds of Canberrans today.

In response to each of your issues:

Yarralumla Wetland – the concept of turning our large drains back into natural waterways is, we think, a smart concept, and very much in keeping with a push to develop a more sustainable city. The Canberra Progressives would look to see this as policy right across Canberra.

YMCA Auxiliary Hall – with any community asset, there will always be a cost associated with its procurement and subsequent upkeep. In principle, the Canberra Progressives would be in support of the acquisition of the hall, but it would need to be done through genuine community engagement, and noting the ACT's parlous budgetary position, would likely need a level of financial commitment from the Yarralumla and surrounding communities to support it. Through bringing the community into the conversation, we're sure a good outcome can be secured.

Parking – parking is a vexed issue across the board. The Canberra Progressives are an evidence based party, and addressing the issue of a limited commodity, i.e. parking, require innovative solutions. We can't simply pave the neighbourhood to accommodate more vehicles, and would look to the world's best practice in parking management in order to solve the problem.

Traffic and pedestrian safety – The Canberra Progressives would not support the construction of the Mint Interchange, but would look towards innovative traffic management designs for the streets of Yarralumla, in order to address increased flows, calm traffic, and improve pedestrian safety. Again, we would refer to case examples from around the world which have proven to create safer environments for road users.

Community garden – The protection of community assets, such as green space amenity, is a hugely important aspect of the Canberra Progressives’ policy platform. We definitely support this initiative.

Protect Stirling Park from development – If this park is not already protected under the ACT Territory Plan zoning, then the Canberra Progressives would be interested in engaging with the community to create a Territory Plan variation, and have it protected accordingly.

Enforce building, lease and planning rules – The Canberra Progressives have a policy to completely overhaul the ACT’s planning law, rules and regulations. We want to conduct a comprehensive engagement with the whole ACT community in order to develop a set of form based codes which provide certainty for developers, business, the community, and government on what shape our built form can take in different places around the city. We would also be working to ensure public authorities responsible for building quality and land uses were sufficiently resourced, and monitored in their tasks.

Thanks again,

Robert Knight

Canberra Progressives

Candidate for Murrumbidgee.